

GN02103

PATENT

Remarks

Claims 4-19 are pending. Claim 20 was canceled without prejudice or disclaimer. No new subject matter has been added to the claims.

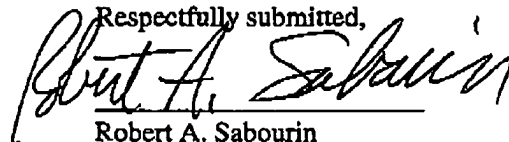
In response to the Restriction Requirement mailed 9-14-07, Applicant disagrees with the Examiner's comparative analysis of the pending claims and fails to see any distinction between the claims for requiring a restriction under the guidelines of MPEP §806.05(h). Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner will reconsider the restriction requirement in view of the following explanation. In the event that the restriction requirement is upheld, Applicant elects, with traverse, claims 16-19 constituting Group II as directed towards a vector error diffusion method.

In the prior response dated July 30, 2007, claims 4 and 16 differed only in that claim 16 was directed towards multi-dimensional vectors corresponding to color images, whereas claim 4 was a special case of claim 16 directed towards one-dimensional vectors corresponding to greyscale images. The wording was perhaps unclear since "an input pixel value" was intended to mean a scalar value for a one-dimensional vector associated with greyscale images. Other than this distinction, the claim language was identical between the previously presented claims 4 and 16. Thus, Applicants aver that both claims were of the same species and a restriction requirement was unnecessary and inappropriate. Notice that claim 4 herein has been amended to clarify the language and intent towards a one-dimensional vector.

No fees are believed to be due with this paper. However, this is a general authorization to charge any fees due to Deposit Account No. 13-3377.

Entry of this Response is respectfully requested. Should questions arise during examination, the Examiner may at any time contact the Applicant's attorney at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,



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